

## RECALLS THE WAR OF 60 YEARS AGO

### Colonel Murphy of New York Enlisted As Boy of Fifteen.

New York—War between the United States and Mexico in 1846 began as a result of a skirmish similar to the unprovoked attack by Mexicans at Carrizal upon the detachment of General Pershing's forces. It was recalled by a veteran of the first Mexican war, Colonel Charles J. Murphy, who is the youngest survivor of that conflict.

Colonel Murphy was also a staff officer in the Civil war. On June 3 he was 84 years old. At his home in West Ninety-third street, Colonel Murphy, commenting on the fight at Carrizal, in which Captain Charles T. Boyd and Lieutenant Henry R. Adair of troop H, Tenth cavalry, were among the killed, said:

"The news of the first battle in Mexico reminds me that the war with Mexico in 1846-8 commenced in a similar way on April 24, 1846, although there was not a formal declaration of war between the two countries. Like the fight with Carranza's men, it was an ambushade for the Americans, and similarly the Americans were attacked by superior forces of probably four to one.

"Captain Thornton, U. S. army marching at the head of 70 men of the Second dragoons in Texas, fell into an ambushade of Mexican regular troops on April 24, 1846, number between 300 and 400. After a gallant resistance he was killed with 16 members of his command, and 38 were wounded. The remainder of the force were taken prisoners. In this fight, as in that at Carrizal it may be noted that apparently the approximate numbers of the slain and wounded were the same on both sides."

It was six days later when the Mexicans attacked Fort Brown, and were repulsed, said Colonel Murphy. On May 8, General Taylor defeated the Mexican army of Generals Ampudia and Arista at Palo Alto.

"It is a noteworthy fact that these battles were fought without a declaration of war on either side," continued the colonel. "Indeed, no declaration of war was ever made by either of the two contending republics."

These conflicts were followed by a call for 30,000 volunteers by President Polk. More than 65,000 volunteers responded promptly. As a comparison of the quotas furnished by each state with the present mobilization of the militia on President Wilson's call, these figures are given by Colonel Murphy:

Alabama, 2981; Maryland and District of Columbia, 1372; Arkansas, 1274; Florida, 289; Missouri, 6441; Georgia, 1987; North Carolina, 1120; New York, 1890; Indiana, 4329; Ohio, 5334; Iowa, 229; New Jersey, 420; Kentucky, 4094; Louisiana, 7341; Pennsylvania, 2117; Michigan, 1072; Tennessee, 5294; Massachusetts, 930; Texas, 7394; Mississippi, 2235; and Wisconsin, 146.

At that time Mexico had a regular army of 50,000, and had called into the field an additional force, chiefly volunteers, of nearly 200,000 men.

Colonel Murphy reviewed the details of some of the later battles to show, he said, the tricky act of General Santa Ana in using a flag of truce and a messenger to General Taylor for the purpose of giving his army time to escape the Americans at the Rancho Buena Vista. General Scott, too, later found that Santa Ana had violated an armistice of 20 days, fortifying his position and reinforcing his army. Speaking of the final big battle of that war and the taking of the City of Mexico, Colonel Murphy recalled these impressions made upon him at the time:

"It was no holiday war. It was replete with tollable marches, with blistering and bleeding feet, through hot sands under a tropical sun, over jagged rocks and snowy mountain ranges where horses and riders perished with cold and exposure. It abounded with nameless tragedies, both in bloody fields near many a smoking gun, and in the deep gloom of fever stricken hospitals.

"In that memorable war of two years we fought 70 battles and engagements without the final loss of a single or an American ensign. Engaged always against heavy odds, we bore the honor of our great republic triumphantly on our ever-advancing swords and bayonets.

"I must not forget to mention that the soldiers of the Mexican armies, throughout the whole war, were nev-

er known to stand a single charge of bayonets.

"Blended with patriotic reflections, we proudly recall the fact that we marched nearly 3000 miles through the country of an enemy alien to us in race and language, and performed no act to wound the modesty of women. The flames of no defenseless homestead lighted up our line of march and no matin hymn or vesper bells were silenced by our coming.

"What has been the result of that victorious war? It acquired for us the vast territories of California, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Idaho, Arizona and Utah, thus adding 1,000,000 square miles, or 640,000,000 acres to the United States, nearly doubling its area."

Colonel Murphy enlisted for the Mexican war when 15 years of age, and served in company D, Seventh regiment. He was one of the only three staff officers of his rank who received the congressional medal of honor for services in the civil war. In 1890 Colonel Murphy was a special commissioner in Europe of the United States department of agriculture. He organized the American relief movement at the time of the Russian famine in 1881, and at the request of the czar he was sent by the American government to Russia to show the various uses of Indian corn. For this and other services he was decorated by Russia.

## UNIFORMED RANK OFFER SERVICES

An asset for the defense of the United States in time of war upon which the government at Washington counts with confidence has been uncovered in the tender of the services of the members of the uniformed rank of the Order of Knights of Pythias, several thousand of whom are drilling every week in the north-west states.

The uniformed rank was organized as a reserve force for use whenever the country required its services and a wire from Supreme Chancellor Brig S. Young indicates that he has offered the trained forces of the Knights.

"The Knights of Pythias is the only fraternity to receive a charter by special act of congress, and it is under peculiar obligations to the country," said Gus S. Moser, chairman of the general committee in charge of the meeting of the supreme lodge which comes to Portland August 1 to 10.

"The fraternity was organized at about the close of the Civil war, and was conceived as a medium for bringing the South and North together in renewed bonds of friendship. The great work done by the order along these lines is reflected from the pages of its history, and when the time came to cultivate a sentiment in the minds of the younger generation for the defense of the country and a reverence for the flag of the nation, the uniformed rank was formed.

Its members are obligated to the flag, and pledged to its defense. They are drilled and disciplined men, and whenever the president needs them 50,000 additional soldiers can be mustered very quickly."

The uniformed Knights of Pythias of Washington and Oregon will go into annual encampment at the City Park at Vancouver during the convention of the supreme lodge in Portland in August.

It is not yet known how many companies will respond to the call for the encampment but it is expected to contain not less than 800 men. The camp will be under strictest military rules and will be inspected by officers from Fort Vancouver. At certain hours the public will be admitted to the camp.

Companies of the uniformed rank will participate in the great parade to be held on Tuesday, the first day of the convention, and later in the week will engage in a competitive drill on Multnomah field. Attractive prizes are to be offered by the general entertainment committee.

Five thousand suffragettes paraded in Chicago in a heavy rain. This, though, by no means signifies that they would go to the polls and vote under like conditions.

If you failed to connect up with the national convention you at least have the satisfaction of knowing that you are several smokes to the good.

Take heart, brother, take heart! If your wife declines to laugh at your jokes you can still go out in the woodshed and roar to your heart's content.

Keep your head, look both ways, and move forward. You'll get there.

## HORSE SAVES SOLDIER'S LIFE

### Survivor of Carrizal Vividly Describes the Battle With Mexicans.

Eight to one—these are now said to be the odds against the Americans struggling at Carrizal.

A survivor of the engagement, Sam H. Harris, a dusky private of C troop, Tenth cavalry, was brought to the border late Sunday afternoon suffering from wounds in his left shoulder and arm. From him came the assertion that pitted against the 84 men of the American detachment were fully 700 Mexicans.

"To top it off," said Harris, "they had a machine gun and they surprised us.

"We approached them in a peaceful way and never had an idea that they would try to massacre us. Had we known they wanted to fight, we could have given it to them. I guess they got enough, at that."

Harris' troop was entirely surrounded by the Carranzistas, he said. He escaped, wounded, from the cordons the enemy had drawn around the Americans by riding straight through their lines on his charger, which had also been wounded. He rode this horse until he fell from loss of blood, and then nabbed another fleeing animal with which he eventually caught up with other survivors whom he accompanied to field headquarters.

Harris' account of the battle and his escape was expressive and colorful. Tears came to his eyes as he recounted the heroic effort of his wounded charger to carry him to safety.

"That horse shure saved my life," he said. "I want you to know I let him see how I appreciated it.

"Our troop, with Captain Boyd commanding, had pulled before Carrizal. The captain ordered everyone to dismount and we all got down. I was a horse holder and I took charge of some animals while the riders stood at attention.

"Just before Captain Boyd went forward, my horse got nervous and began to prance around. I lost what was going on, looking after those fool animals.

"Next thing I knew the shooting had started. I looked around. Captain Boyd was down and I couldn't see him. I kept on looking. There was easily 700 of those 'greasers' around us. They had come right up out of the ground, formed a half circle. Our men kept on falling. The first shots came from a machine gun. It was trained right on us, and believe me, it talked fast. Every few minutes—it might have been seconds for all I know—it would let up while the operator was putting in more clips. Then you could pick out the clicks of the rifle fire.

"It was more than two minutes before the Mexicans had surrounded us. We were right there in the middle, fighting like the dickens. All around the horses were rearing and plunging. Every little bit a horse or a man would get a bullet and go down.

"I couldn't fight for I had to keep after those mounts. Pretty soon my own horse, a great big fellow, staggered and whinnied. They had hit him in the neck.

"I put my hand on the spot where the blood was spouting out. It was then they got me—in the shoulder.

"I lost control of the animals completely. My own horse was whinnying and tugged on his rope. I could see fellows dropping all around me, and horses were running off, over the bodies. We didn't have a show in the world and I saw it. I cut the horses loose and climbed on the animal, hit it for the thinnest part of the circle.

"I went right through the Mexicans. My horse brushed two of them out of the way as we charged.

"I owe my life to that horse sure as you live. Don't you know that animal was so brave and big hearted that he carried me along for 10 miles before he settled down to a walk.

"Five miles further on his legs just gave out and he went down.

"Man, I hope you never have to say good-bye to a horse like that. It seemed to me that I couldn't leave him. I looked back to see if there was anyone following. There wasn't so I knelt down and poured a little water on his tongue. He was slipping fast and I just told him how sorry I was. I thanked him for the mighty big favor he did me. Yes, sir, I thanked him, like he was a human. And I guess he understood, for he got that look in his eyes animals have when they are grateful. You know.

"I wanted to stay longer, but he

was about gone, coughing blood. No use my staying, when some of those 'greasers' might catch up and get me. I was bleeding, too, and in pain. I thanked him again and said 'good-bye.'

"I walked and walked. A few miles on I ran onto one of our animals. I jumped him and rode on toward Colonia Dublan. Before I got there I ran into some other survivors and went on together."

## THE OVERWORKED LAWMAKING INDUSTRY.

Apart from its merits, the volume of our legislation is astounding. Congress and the state legislatures include some 7,000 members. Professor Dicey, the great British student of parliamentary activity, has pointed out that congress and our states annually enact more legislation than is proposed in the same period by the combined parliaments of Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Italy and France, representing more than two and a half times our national population. In the last session but one preceding the outbreak of the present war, the British parliament received 547 legislative proposals and enacted 239. The sixty-third congress considered 30,053 bills and joint resolutions and enacted 700. The present congress since meeting in December, has received more than 21,000 legislative proposals. Between 1909 and 1916, our state and national assemblies enacted 78,748 new statutes. Forty-three legislatures in session in 1914-15 exceeded the record of any preceding year by passing 16,222 bills, 1,066 of which were vetoed, 15,055 of which became statutes to be printed for the enlightenment of lawyer and layman upon some 43,500 pages. During the past seven years the people of the United States have received an average of 12,000 new statutes per annum, the fruit of probably not less than three-quarters of a million legislative proposals, dealing in no small part with production distribution, finance, in every circumstance of conduct, supervision, employment and organization.

There are times when one is inclined to the view that writing history and making it are two different things.

It's hard to realize that Charles E. Hughes was once a little shaver.

## THE MULE OR THE GIRL?

Indianapolis Record: John Jones, farmer, went to his barn one morning and found there a brand new mule colt. He raised it until it was three years old, when \$200 was offered for it. Instead of selling it he rented it to the city of Indianapolis for 85 cents a day including board, stall, shoeing and medical attendance. The mule worked 250 days the first year, earning \$213.50 or \$200 net after taxes, etc., were paid. Mr. Jones bought another mule with the \$200 which he also rented to the city, and at the end of the second year he had two mules and \$400 cash, which he invested in two more mules. He kept this up 15 years, till his first mule colt was 18 years old at which time he owned 32,767 mules worth an average of \$100 each, or \$3,276,700. The 19th year they earned him a net income of \$6,553,400.

Alice Allen, daughter of Albert Allen, living across the road from Jones, was born the same day the mule colt registered its first kick. Her father fed, clothed and educated her for 17 years at a cost of \$125 a year, and then sent her to business college for a year at an expense of \$400, making her total cost at 18 years \$2525. When she was 18 she got a situation as stenographer and office girl with an Indianapolis business house at \$8 a week, paying for her own room, board, streetcar fare, shoes, doctor bills and as much clothing as what was left would buy.

All of which merely shows that some things are different from others.—Exchange.

Some men arise from the slums, make a few dollars, and then look down upon the source from which they sprang. Their heads just can't hold them.

A Connecticut minister has etched a munition factory in order to make a living but Billy Sunday hurls liquid fire from the same old stand.

Continued failure on the part of Yuan Shi Kai to engineer a preparedness parade marks him as a rank conservative.

Well anyway when Mr. Hughes does speak, he says something. As between Hughes and Wilson there should be no question as to which should deserve to get the silent vote.

What has become of the old fashioned patriot who used to swear to let his whiskers grow until Bryan was elected president?

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# Federal Inquiry or Railroad Strike?

Faced by demands from the conductors, engineers, firemen and brakemen that would impose on the country an additional burden in transportation costs of \$100,000,000 a year, the railroads propose that this wage problem be settled by reference to an impartial Federal tribunal.

With these employees, whose efficient service is acknowledged, the railroad have no differences that could not be considered fairly and decided justly by such a public body.

## Railroads Urge Public Inquiry and Arbitration

The formal proposal of the railroads to the employees for the settlement of the controversy is as follows:

"Our conferences have demonstrated that we cannot harmonize our differences of opinion and that eventually the matters in controversy must be passed upon by other and disinterested agencies. Therefore, we propose that your proposals and the proposition of the railroads be disposed of by one or the other of the following methods:

1. Preferably by submission to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the only tribunal which, by reason of its accumulated information bearing on railway conditions and its control of the revenue of the railways, is in a position to consider and protect the rights and equities of all the interests affected, and to provide additional revenue necessary to meet the added cost of operation in case your proposals are found by the Commission to be just and reasonable; or, in the event the Interstate Commerce Commission cannot, under existing laws, act in the premises, that we jointly request Congress to take such action as may be necessary to enable the Commission to consider and promptly dispose of the questions involved; or
2. By arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Federal law" (The Newlands Act).

## Leaders Refuse Offer and Take Strike Vote

Leaders of the train service brotherhoods, at the joint conference held in New York, June 1-15, refused the offer of the railroads to submit the issue to arbitration or Federal review, and the employees are now voting on the question whether authority shall be given these leaders to declare a nation-wide strike.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is proposed by the railroads as the public body to which this issue ought to be referred for these reasons:

No other body with such an intimate knowledge of railroad conditions has such an unquestioned position in the public confidence.

The rates the railroads may charge the public for transportation are now largely fixed by this Government board.

Out of every dollar received by the railroads from the public nearly one-half is paid directly to the employees as wages; and the money to pay increased wages can come from no other source than the rates paid by the public.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, with its control over rates, is in a position to make a complete investigation and render such decision as would protect the interests of the railroad employees, the owners of the railroads, and the public.

## A Question For the Public to Decide

The railroads feel that they have no right to grant a wage preferment of \$100,000,000 a year to these employees, now highly paid and constituting only one-fifth of all the employees, without a clear mandate from a public tribunal that shall determine the merits of the case after a review of all the facts.

The single issue before the country is whether this controversy is to be settled by an impartial Government inquiry or by industrial warfare.

## National Conference Committee of the Railways

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